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A FREE PAPER FOR FREE KIDS



ISSUE #34 • MARCH/APRIL 2012

When LEARNING is a CRIME:

Why Tucson Ended Its Mexican American Studies Program

By Youth Reporter ZAZIL DAVIS-VAZQUEZ, age 16 and TOM ENGLISH

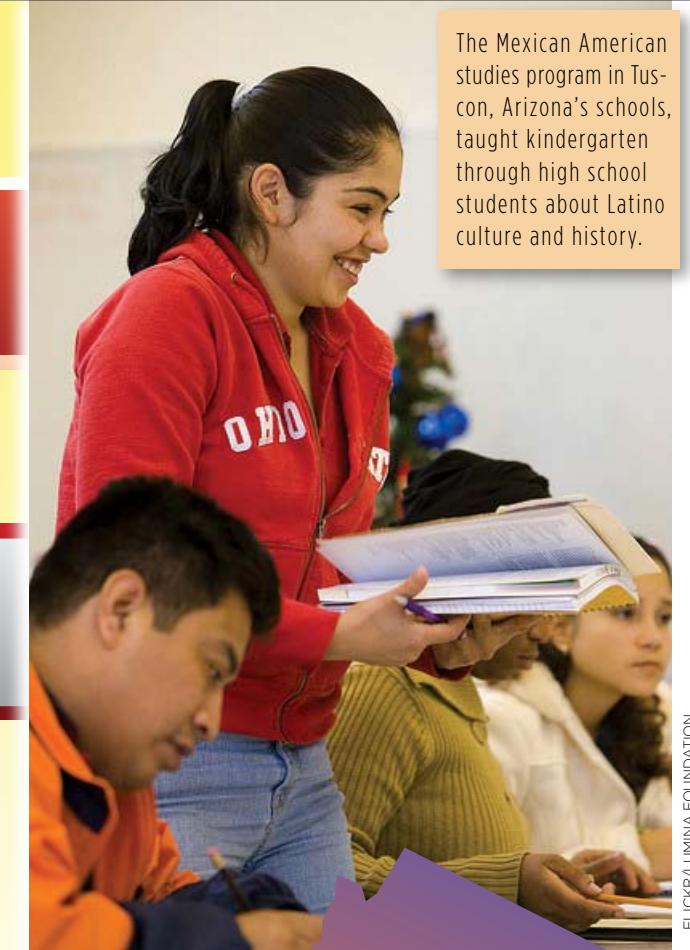
In January 2012, Tom Horne, the Arizona attorney general, announced that the Mexican American Studies program at Tucson Unified School district was illegal. According to *The Nation*, the program had a 100 percent graduation rate among its students and placed 82 percent of its graduates in colleges. So why was it shut down?

Horne found the program illegal under a 2010 Arizona law that prohibits classes in public schools that "promote resentment toward a race or class of people, are designed primarily for pupils of a particular ethnic group or advocate ethnic solidarity instead of the treatment of pupils as individuals." Horne found the program violated the law because it "divides students up by race," though anyone could enroll in the classes. He also claims that

the curriculum teaches students that they are oppressed. If the district hadn't complied with the law, it would have lost \$14 million in funding.

In response, former students have spoken out about the value of the program. "When I had the privilege of reading Latino literature and Chicano studies, I became intrigued in the curriculum and pushed myself further to do better," said high school senior Maria Teresa Mejia.

On February 8, hundreds of students walked out of four schools in the district in protest. Educators across the country have joined the Network of Teacher Activist Groups in its pledge to use materials banned from Tucson classrooms in their own classes.



Flickr/Lumina Foundation



Arizona: Fast Facts

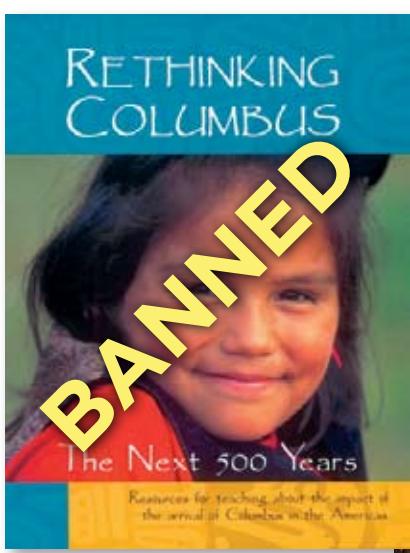
60% of students in the Tucson district are Latino

30% of Arizona's population is Latino

27% of Arizonans have Mexican ancestry

Arizona was part of Mexico when Mexico gained independence from Spain in 1821. The United States forced Mexico to give up Arizona after the Mexican-American War (1846-1848).

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; CNN



RETHINKING SCHOOLS LTD.

Books Removed from Classrooms in Tucson

This book, along with six others, was removed from Tucson classrooms. There are just a few copies available in school libraries. Most of the removed books are about American history told from the perspective of Native Americans or Latinos.



Flickr/Lumina Foundation



Meet...
Franciszka
from Poland

Name: Franciszka Gabriela Litwin

Age: 11

Hometown: Wrocław, Poland

Languages spoken: Polish, English

Family: Franciszka lives with her parents and older sister Maria.

Parent's Work: Franciszka's mother is a film director, and her father is a sociologist.

Favorite Food: Pierogi (an Eastern or Central European dumpling)

Favorite School Subject: Music

Favorite Activities: Horseback riding, playing the piano



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Poland at a Glance

President: Bronisław Komorowski

Prime Minister: Donald Tusk

Location: Central Europe

Population: more than 38 million

Capital: Warsaw

Religion: 90% Roman Catholic, 10% Other (Unspecified, Eastern Orthodox and Protestant)

History: During World War II (1939-1945), Germany occupied part of Poland while the Soviet Union took control of the rest. Poland lost nearly 20 percent of its people in World War II—half of whom were Jews. Today, Poland is part of the European Union.

**Learn a little
POLISH**

Jak się masz? (Yak she mash)

How are you?

Dziękuję (Jen-koo-ye) Thank you

Wiosna (vee-os-na) Spring

Dżdżystość (ji-jist-osh-ch) Rain

Do widzenia (Do veed-zayn-ya)
Goodbye

**Compiled by Youth Reporter
Zazil Davis-Vazquez, age 16**

Country Profile Sources: BBC, The World Factbook



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Published five times a year in September, November, January, March and May. Issue #34 • Printed March 3, 2012

ISSN: 1943-1031

WHAT IS INDYKIDS?

IndyKids is a free newspaper, website and teaching tool that aims to inform children on current news and world events from a progressive perspective and to inspire in children a passion for social justice and learning. **IndyKids** is funded through donations and grants.

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

Common Language Project: www.commonlanguageproject.net
New York Collective of Radical Educators: www.nycore.org
New York City Indymedia: www.nycindymedia.org
Teachers Unite: www.teachersunite.net
AfricaWrites: www.africawrites.com

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Just contact **IndyKids!** Adults and kids can write articles, take photos, contribute artwork and help distribute the paper.

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That's the number of same-sex couples that reported themselves as "married" on the last U.S. Census.
Source: NPR

131,729

nation & world

Making Love Legal

By Kid Reporter ROSE MARSH, age 11

Six states and the District of Columbia have legalized gay marriage, which means that people of the same sex can get married. In most states it is not legal for same-sex couples to get married, even though the U.S. Constitution says everyone deserves equal protection of the law. In California, gay marriage was made legal by its highest court, but after that ruling, a majority of people decided to make same-sex marriage illegal in a statewide vote, or referendum. In February, a federal court ruled that the referendum violated the basic rights of gay people to equality under the U.S. Constitution. But it doesn't stop there; the case will most likely go to the U.S. Supreme Court, where the



final decision will be up in the air.

The struggle to make gay marriage legal is also underway in New Jersey and Maryland. And, starting this June, same-sex couples in Washington State will be allowed to marry, making it the seventh state to legalize gay marriage.

What does "gay marriage" mean?

"Gay" refers to a man who is attracted to other men or a woman who is attracted to other women. In six states, couples of the same sex who love each other are now allowed to be legally married. These states are: Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Vermont and also the District of Columbia.



Flickr/City of West Hollywood

Something Smells Like Gas



Flickr/Energy Tomorrow

A worker in Colorado shows the drill used to drill for natural gas. The Sierra Club now says, "The closer we look at natural gas, the dirtier it appears; and the less of it we burn, the better off we will be."

By Kid Reporter ELIYA AHMAD, AGE 10

It wasn't just the \$26 million donation from Chesapeake Energy that started the Sierra Club's problems. Nor that the Club started to say that natural gas was an Earth-friendly(er) "bridge"



from dirtier fuels like oil and coal to more expensive ones like solar and wind power soon after the money started coming. Nor was it that the Club did not publicize this donation. But put all this together, things started to smell fishy.

The Sierra Club, a nonprofit environmental organization, received \$26 million from Chesapeake Energy, a natural gas company, between 2007 and 2010. It was soon after the donations started that the Club started to promote natural gas.

Until the gift was revealed, it seemed like the Sierra Club really believed that natural gas drilling was okay for the environment. But once the gift was made public, it raised the suspicion of many Sierra Club members who were already wondering whether the Club's relationships with corporations had anything to do with the positions they took.

Sierra Club officials maintain that their support of natural gas was unrelated to its corporate relationship. However, the Club's Executive Director, Michael Brune, did admit to *TIME Magazine* that "the first rule of advocacy is that you shouldn't take money from industries and companies you're trying to change." But \$26 million funds a lot of environmental advocacy work. What would you have done?

THANK YOU to the following donors for supporting **IndyKids!**

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• North Star Fund

Gold Star: \$3,000+

• Daniel Dromm, NYC Council Member

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• The NY Community Trust Matching Gift

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• Broadway United Church of Christ

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• Asha Subramanian
• Nicola Wells

Where in the World?

All the places listed below are mentioned in this issue. Can you match them with their general location on the world map at right? Answers are at the bottom of this page.

- a) Egypt _____
- b) Syria _____
- c) Iran _____
- d) Poland _____
- e) Mexico _____
- f) Arizona _____
- g) Florida _____
- h) Texas _____
- i) South Indian Ocean _____
- j) Iraq _____
- k) The Philippines _____



U.S. Robot Planes Kill People from the Skies

By INDYKIDS STAFF

While U.S. troops have officially left Iraq, the U.S. State Department is operating a small fleet of surveillance drones (robot planes) there to help protect the United States Embassy. The Embassy in Baghdad is the largest and most expensive of any embassy in the world. According to *The New York Times*, some senior Iraqi officials are angry about the program, saying the use of unarmed aircraft is disrespectful of Iraqi **sovereignty**. "Our sky is our sky, not the U.S.A.'s sky," said Adnan al-Asadi, Iraq's acting minister of the interior.

Iraq is not the only place where people are upset about U.S. military drones. In February, hundreds of Pakistanis protested against U.S. drone strikes that kill people. The protesters burned an effigy of President Obama. Pakistan's foreign minister, Hina Rabbani Khar, explained that killing people only leads to more people who hate the United States. "... if one strike leads to getting you target number one or target number three today, you are creating five more targets or 10 more targets, in the militancy that it breeds," reported *Democracy Now*.



FLICKR/JAMES GORDON

Drones are planes that fly without a human pilot. The Obama administration has used drones in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, Ethiopia, Somalia and Libya to kill people it thinks are a threat. The practice is controversial and likely illegal.

Sovereignty (SOV-rin-tee)

the ability of a country to have independent authority over its territory, without any interference from other countries.

Middle East News

By AMANDA VENDER

Syria: People want the president out

An uprising against President Bashar al-Assad has been going on for one year. Assad has been president for 12 years and his father was president for 29 years before him. The Syrian government has been bombing

cities and towns in response to the revolt causing many Syrians to flee to the neighboring country of Lebanon. The United Nations has registered more than 6,000 Syrian refugees in Beirut and northern Lebanon though the number may be as high as 20,000.

McClatchy Newspapers interviewed a Syrian woman named Um Bilal who has been living in a shipping container in Lebanon with her three children for two weeks. She was recently joined by relatives and now the container has 16 people. "We cannot go back until the system has fallen," she said.

Iran: No plan for nuclear weapons found

Anti-war groups in the United States held protests in 80 cities to oppose any U.S. attack or intervention in Iran. The U.S. government says that the oil-rich country has been developing nuclear weapons. It has imposed sanctions (a ban on trading certain goods) with Iran as punishment. Iran says that its nuclear research is for peaceful energy and medical purposes. While a November 2011 International Atomic Energy Agency report concluded that Iran is not developing nuclear weapons, a lot of U.S. media reports said the opposite. Sounds familiar? On March 19, 2003, the United States launched a war on Iraq saying it had nuclear weapons. That was later found to be false.



Protests against Syria's President Bashar al-Assad's government started in mid-March 2011, and have continued since.

newsbriefs



Sharing the Web

By Kid Reporter

DANIEL IVKO, age 10

S.O.P.A. is a bill in the U.S. Congress whose letters stand for "Stop Online Piracy Act." It aims to prevent people from giving away copyrighted material for free on some websites. Some call these activities "trafficking" and the material "pirated." People who oppose the bill believe it will shut down many websites like YouTube, Facebook and Wikipedia, where people freely upload and transfer videos, data and songs. They argue that "the Internet must remain free!"



Should Kids Work as Janitors?



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS/ASHAMEDPOLITICIAN

Presidential hopeful Newt Gingrich said that New York City's public school custodians, who clean and repair schools, should be fired and poor kids should take their jobs to earn money and learn the value of work. He argues that this would help stop poverty. Although Child Labor Laws prevent children younger than 14 from working unless they are helping their parents, babysitting or have a newspaper route, Gingrich has called these laws "truly stupid." What do YOU think?

Soccer Riots in Egypt



FLICKR/SIERAROMEA

By Kid Reporter IRATI EGORHO

DIEZ, age 9 On February 2 in Egypt, legions of angry soccer fans (called Ultras) took to the streets in a riot after a match between two Egyptian soccer teams, Masry from the city Port Said and Al-Ahly, from Cairo. With no police present, at least 74 people were killed in the violence after the game. Many Egyptians are blaming the police and military for not protecting the fans from the violence.



Kids in the U.S.



FLICKR.COM/ROSHI PR

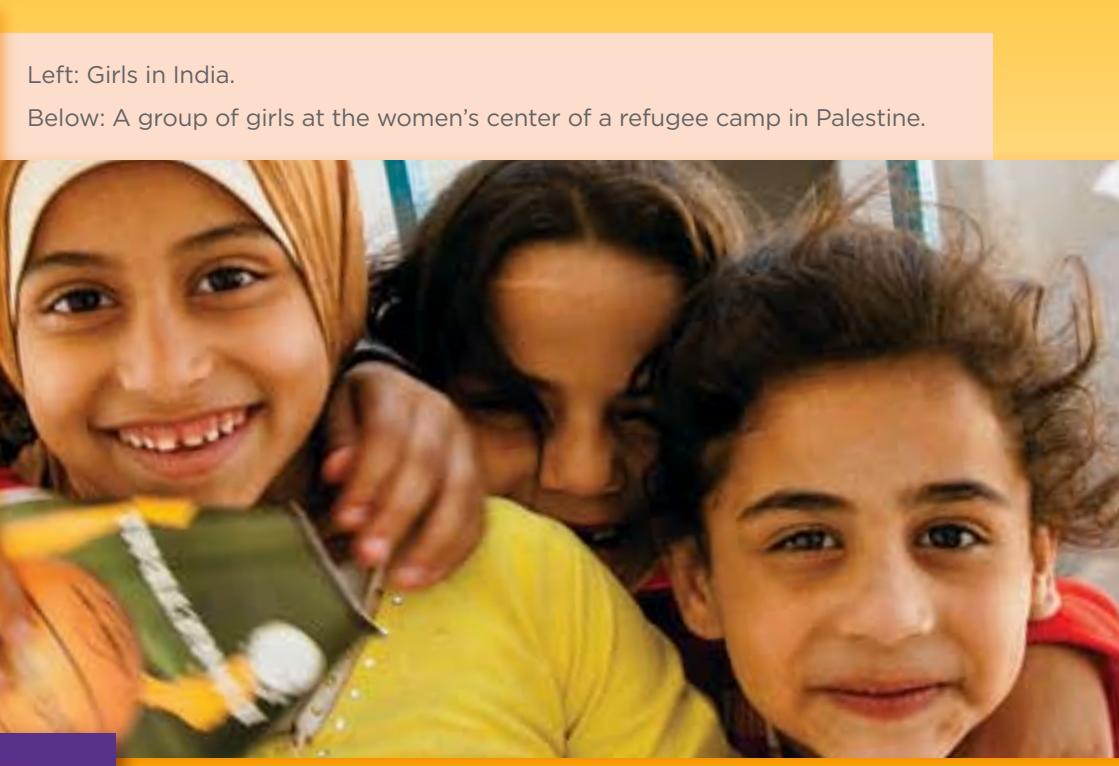
A 2011 report by the Children's Defense Fund says that one of every four people living in the United States is a child. Almost 45 percent of children in the United States are not white. By the year 2019, the majority of children will be racial or ethnic minorities.

About 50% of the world's population are girls and women.

Women have played an important role throughout history. Women have always struggled. Women have worked the toughest jobs-in clothing and pecan factories, doing house cleaning, babysitting and cooking. Women have resisted in a lot of ways, too. Women and girls have stood up to sexism and demanded voting rights and reproductive rights. This struggle still continues today.

- By CAS-ANDRA KESTO, age 13

They Struggled Back Then...



But the Struggle Isn't Over...

Girl Kicked Off Little League Team for Being a Girl

In 1974, girls won the right to play little league baseball. Today, they still face challenges to playing baseball. In January, Yahoo Sports News reported that a Texas youth baseball coach admitted that 7-year-old Anna Kimball is a better player than some boys on the team. But that didn't stop the coach from booting her from the squad. Anna can't play on the team because she is a girl. The coach wants to move the team to a more competitive league, and in that league, girls are not allowed to play.

- By SHEMAR WILSON, age 13



GABRIELA SZPUNT

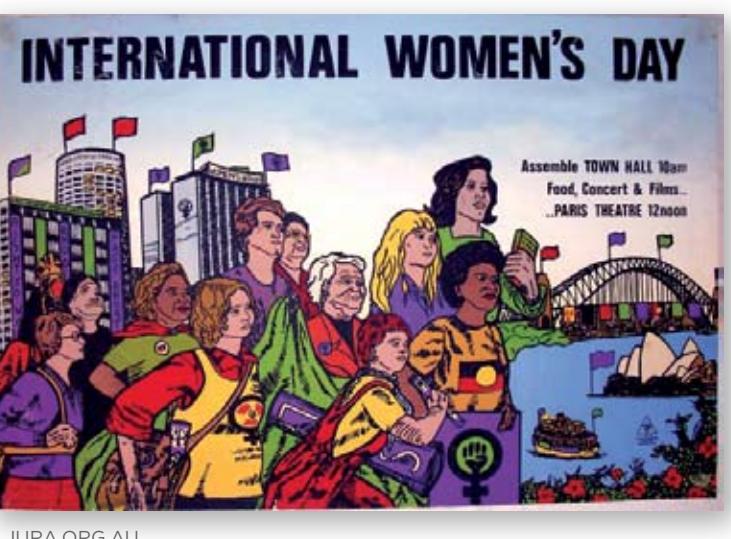
Women's and Girls' HERstory



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

This is the symbol for feminism. The raised fist represents strength in numbers and standing up for women's rights. The circle with the cross is the universal symbol for female, and comes from the astrological symbol for the planet Venus.

KID REPORTER



JURA.ORG.AU



GABRIELA SZPUNT

International Women's Day: March 8, 1908

International Women's Day is celebrated each year on March 8. Women initiated the day in the early 1900s as a way to honor women who were mistreated and undervalued in society. On March 8, 1908, around 15,000 women protested in New York City to demand shorter working hours, better salaries and voting rights. Since then, many countries designated March 8 as an official holiday to honor women's rights.

Triangle Shirtwaist Factory: March 25, 1911

On Saturday, March 25, 1911, two days before she would turn 18, Rose Rosenfeld walked to her job at the Triangle Waist Company. She made blouses called shirtwaists from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. with only 30 minutes for lunch.

On March 25, 1911, a couple of people on the eighth floor heard a small explosion. Then someone yelled "fire!" Just about 500 people were in the Triangle Factory that day. Rose was one of the 250 people on the ninth floor. Everyone panicked and tried to go down the stairs. Rose ran upstairs. The company's executives were on the tenth floor. Rose figured they would have an escape route. When she got to the tenth floor, she followed people up to the roof. From there, rescuers on an adjacent building pulled them to safety.

The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire was one of the deadliest disasters in New York City's history. Managers had locked the doors to prevent workers from stealing or taking breaks and the workers couldn't escape. 146 workers died. Most of the victims were young immigrant women. The disaster helped lead to the formation of The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, an organization of workers fighting for better wages and conditions. The union still exists today and is called UNITE-HERE.

- By SHEMAR WILSON, age 13



FLICKR/KHEE CENTER, CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Title IX Brings More Equality for Girls in Sports

In 1972, a law was passed called Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Title IX had a huge impact on athletics. Before Title IX, much more public money was going to sports programs for boys than for girls. With Title IX, equal opportunities, including access to quality equipment, facilities and training, had to be offered to boys and girls.

Mourners paying their respects to the victims of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire in March, 1911.

Women Migrant Workers Fight for Better Conditions

About 1,569,500 Filipinos leave the Philippines (a country in Southeast Asia) every year in the hope of finding a better life. Poverty in their home country forces them to find work abroad. 70 percent of Filipino migrants are women and 90 percent of them are working as domestic workers. They work as babysitters and housekeepers. The pay is low and most of the time the salary isn't paid in full, according to a 2010 study of Filipino migrants in New York City by the DAMAYAN Migrant Workers Association and The Urban Justice Center. In other words, it's slavery all over again.

Juana and Lydia, two domestic workers and members of DAMAYAN, spoke to *IndyKids* Kid Reporters. They are trying to let the world know that Filipino domestic workers need to be treated fairly. Juana worked for her employer for six months. She never got days off and had to work for about seventy hours a week. Finally, she quit. Lydia said, "We want to be known. We also want to be treated fairly."

- By ROBERT IVKO, age 12

Ways to Recognize Sexism

If you notice any of these things happening around you, speak up for the rights of girls and women!

1. When someone tells a girl that she cannot play "boy activities."
2. If you are a girl and a teacher calls your house more than the kids who cause mischief
3. A teacher calls on a male student more often than he or she calls on a female student.
4. When a school uses textbooks that minimize the contributions of women.
5. When a boy does something wrong and the teacher says, "Boys will be boys."

- By JALILAH JONES and CIERRA CHIN, ages 13



AMANDA VENDER

How Much Money Does She Make?

In the United States, for every \$1.00 a man earns:

A woman earns **\$0.77**

An African American woman earns **\$0.68**

A Latina woman earns **\$0.59**

An Asian American woman earns **\$0.87**

Source: National Committee on Pay Equity



FLICKR/OSEVICTORIA

By Kid Reporters JALILAH JONES, SHEMAR WILSON and DONALD BERGER

Burmese pythons are an invasive (non-native) species that have made the Florida Everglades their home away from home. A study by biologist Michael Dorcas reveals that the 12-16 foot-long snakes, big enough to swallow an alligator, are gobbling up the medium-sized mammals in the area. More than 99 percent of raccoons, rabbits and foxes have disappeared. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has banned Burmese pythons from entering the country or crossing state lines. Will this stop them?

**Mummy Secrets Revealed**

KAREN BEAN © THE FIELD MUSEUM OF CHICAGO

By Kid Reporter ROBERT IVKO, age 12
Anthropologists around the world are using new technology to take a deeper look at **mummies** than ever before.

Endoscopes (miniature cameras) enter through cracks to explore the bodies. CAT scans use X-rays to create 3-D images, revealing what's inside. Things like sex, disease and what they ate last can be discovered. Finally, we can get a clearer idea of the past.

Mummy: a body which upon burial is preserved by people or nature**Humpback Whale Harmonies**

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS/WANETTA AYERS

By Kid Reporter MARIAH WILSON, age 13

The southern Indian Ocean is home to different groups of humpback whales and they happen to enjoy singing, just different tunes! A study in the journal *Marine Mammal Science* suggests that whales in different parts of the ocean have distinct songs that are an important part of their unique cultures. Male whales are usually the singers, serenading females during winter mating season. A humpback's song may sound just like shrieking to us, but the whales create long melodies using their own rules of grammar and mathematics.

**culture&activism****Urban Animals: Great Horned Owls****By Kid Reporter
GEORGIA REED-STAMM, age 9**

Great horned owls are one of the biggest and most powerful owls, and were recently seen trying to nest and mate in New York City for the first time in 100 years.

The owls need to nest in peaceful and quiet areas. Unfortunately, picture taking tourists and barking dogs have managed to scare off the owls, making their chance of successful nesting and mating smaller and smaller.

However, bird watchers think this year could be the year for the great horned owl. According to *The New York Times*, one of New York's greatest bird watchers, Bob DeCandido (aka "Birding Bob"), and other bird

watchers are hoping that these owls are the 21st century owl version of Pale Male: the pioneer red-tailed hawk who was first spotted nesting in Manhattan's Central Park in 1991. Ever since, pairs of red-tailed hawks and their speckled eggs have been seen in all five boroughs of New York City.

"Owls do something to people. . . ." Birding Bob told *The New York Times*. ". . . People are fascinated with them."



FLICKR/VEESEES

Great Horned Owls are the most common owl of North and South America.**DID YOU KNOW:**

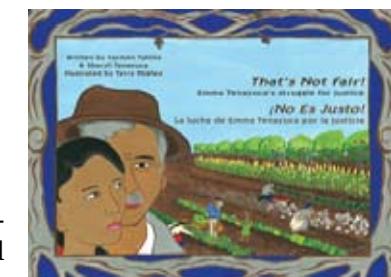
- Great horned owls are strong enough to lift prey two to three times their size!
- Great horned owls have bigger ear tufts than any other owl. The feathers look like horns but they aren't. That's why they are named great horned owls.

Book Review: That's Not Fair!/iNo Es Justo!**By Kid Reporter DANESHIA POWELL JOHNSON, age 13**

That's Not Fair is a picture book that takes place in San Antonio, Texas in the 1920s-1930s. It is a true story of Emma Tenayuca, a Mexican-American child who began to struggle against things she saw as unfair.

Emma sees a farmer get kicked off of his land, a friend who cannot read and poor families. This inspires Emma to become an activist. She organized more than 12,000 pecan factory workers to go on strike when the factory lowered their wages from four cents an hour to three cents. At the young age of 15, Emma went to jail for what she believed in.

This wonderful story of resistance is re-



WINGSPRESS

"That's Not Fair!/iNo Es Justo!", by Carmen Tafolla, Sharyll Tenayuca and Terry Ybanez (illustrator) Wings Press, 2008 (Bilingual edition)

told by Emma Tenayuca's niece, Sharyll Tenayuca, and her friend Carmen Tafolla. The illustrations could have been a little better. The illustrator could have used more details. The book is written in both English and Spanish so that readers like me can understand! I'll remember that Emma "had given [the workers] a voice and given them hope." This book is inspiring because Emma is so young, yet she wasn't afraid to stand up for what she thought was fair.



FLICKR/PHIL DRAGASH

Burgers Fit For Fido?**By Kid Reporter CIERRA CHIN, age 13**

Did you know that you and your four-legged friend might be eating the same meat scraps for dinner? Inedible beef trimmings, which normally go into dog food are rinsed with ammonia (a household cleaner) and made into burgers that are available in schools, restaurants and supermarkets. Up to 70 percent of ground beef in the United States is treated with ammonium hydroxide, aka "pink slime." After chef Jamie Oliver demonstrated the process on his television show, *Food Revolution*, McDonald's decided to stop using pink slime in their burgers.



yourturn

Should Women Be Allowed To Play Major League Sports?

In 1972, the U.S. government passed a law called Title IX to allow girls to have the same opportunities as boys to play sports in school. But major league sports is a different story.

Kid reporter Simone Rubin, age 10, interviewed three girls at her school, the Brooklyn New School. **Kid reporter Georgia Reed-Stamm, age 9,** interviewed three boys at her school, P.S. 8 in Brooklyn, New York.



Yes, because women should play in the Super Bowl.

Alexa Carroll, 10



If women have a passion for sports they should be allowed to play and do what they love. Either women should be allowed to play or have their own league. I think they should have their own league.

Efrem Sidi-Shire, 8



Yes, because I feel like women are the same as boys.

Ella Pearcy, 9



Yes, I believe women should be able to play sports like the Super Bowl. Women are just as strong as men and more flexible.

Lissa Sangree, 12



think they should be allowed to play in major league sports, certainly. Because women and men are both humans and they both have rights—or at least they should have.

Harry Saunders, 10

Street Musicians Under Attack

By Kid Reporter ALEXIA ALMONTE, age 11

Have you ever stopped to enjoy music played by a street musician? Did you know that many of them are harassed by the police, told to move, given tickets and sometimes arrested? *IndyKids* spoke with Todd Grunder about his life as a street musician. He plays bass for the doo wop group Acapella Soul.

Have you seen an increase in harassment of yourself and other musicians?

I have seen an effect. We used to play under the arch in Washington Square Park, but now no one is allowed under the arch. It's a landmark, and the fine for playing under the arch is \$250. For some musicians that could be a week's worth of work.

Do you think that the police are trying to project a certain image

of the city to tourists?

Some tourists come to the city just to see things like musicians, it brings in tourist money. Maybe these cops need something to do, but I'm not sure why they would harass artists.

I think we even make the streets safer. A couple of years ago, the guys from Acapella Soul saved a guy who fell onto the [subway] tracks. They were there to see it, and they pulled him out of the tracks; It was in the newspaper. Another day we were at the museum, and a guy was acting unusual. The next thing you know, he was lighting a bag on fire. We put the fire out and ran him off. We're helpful people, we're not bad people. We don't use any amplification. It's just voices and upright bass, so it's not too loud. I think they should just leave artists who are not disturbing anyone alone, and let us make a living.



ACAPELLASOUL.COM

Acapella Soul singing doo wop in New York City.

letters

Your issue #33 ["Growing Poverty"] is ridiculous. You have a recipe requiring a food processor. Nice to know that so called "poor people" are buying raspberries and have food processors!

Anonymous, Oakland, CA

I think this newspaper is the best kid newspaper. Every time I read it, it helps me learn a lot of things about my community. It's very awesome! This paper just helps me get smarter and smarter.

Corey, Sixth Grader, Brooklyn, NY

I think that it is unfair that kids in richer neighborhoods get to receive a better education than kids in poor neighborhoods. We deserve the same education other neighborhoods receive. Also, the teachers deserve the same salaries. Just because we are in different places, doesn't mean we should get different things.

Yasmin Perez, Sixth Grader, Brooklyn, NY

[The United States Postal Service] is trying to close post offices and slash the number of workers. They are also trying to cut Saturday deliveries.



and that means the deliveries will take longer to get to who ever needs it. If they can't have their jobs, then deliveries will be slower.

Aspire Vialua, age 11, Brooklyn, NY

I am pleased to say that I am quite happy that the war [with] Iraq is finally over, I understand that more than 4,000 U.S. troops died in the war, and between 650,000 and one million

Iraqis died. It breaks my heart to ask if it was really worth it? Maybe it was. What I will leave you with is God bless the U.S.A.

Travis Williams, Sixth Grader, Brooklyn, NY

I really enjoyed reading the story about "Growing Poverty" because you really gave lot of details on how people are in need of more money. They are homeless and in need of food.

Leroy Samuel, age 11, Brooklyn, NY

I read the article "Better Schools For The Rich" I disagree that the rich people have better schools than Blacks cause whites are no better then Blacks.

Alisia Arthur, Sixth Grader, Brooklyn, NY



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Chewy Chocolate Chip Cookies

By Kid Reporter JALILAH JONES, age 13



Ingredients:

3 cups all-purpose flour
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1/8 teaspoon salt
1 cup (2 sticks) butter
1 cup sugar
3/4 cup light brown sugar
3 large eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
12 ounces milk chocolate chips

Instructions:

1. Pre-heat oven to 350° F
2. Combine flour, baking powder and salt in bowl
3. Combine butter and sugar in another bowl and beat together until light and fluffy
4. Mix in the three large eggs, one at a time
5. Stir in vanilla extract
6. Gradually add flour mixture, mixing well after every addition
7. Fold in all the chocolate chips
8. Drop the dough by tablespoon-fulls about 2 inches apart onto baking sheet
9. Flatten dough with back of fork
10. Bake approximately 10-15 minutes until edges are golden-brown
11. Cool on baking sheet and ENJOY!

Makes: 60 cookies

By Kid Reporter DONALD BERGER, age 12

1. I was born a slave in 1862 in Holly Springs, Mississippi.

2. I helped start the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and fought for women's rights.

3. My activism put me in grave danger but I refused to be silenced.

4. I became a teacher at the age of 16 to take care of my younger siblings after my parents died of yellow fever.

5. I was a journalist for a free speech newspaper where I wrote about how lynching black people is wrong.

6. By the time I died in 1931, lynching had disappeared almost entirely, largely due to my effort.

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"Getting involved with *IndyKids* has made me more involved in what is going on in the world that I live in."
-Shemar Wilson, age 13,
IndyKids Kid Reporter

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- \$50 from 50 people